## **APPENDIX A**

## **Glossary of Terms**

**API** Application Program Interface, a set of routines, protocols, and tools for building

software applications. A good API makes it easier to develop a program by providing all the building blocks. A programmer puts the blocks together.

**Applet** A small data program that can be embedded in an HTML page.

**ASCII** American Standard Code for Information Interchange. ASCII is a code for

representing English characters as numbers, with each letter assigned a number

from 0 to 127.

**CGI** Common Gateway Interface, a set of rules that describe how a web server

communicates with another piece of software on the same machine and how the

other piece of software (the CGI program) talks to the web server.

**Data** Factual information such as text, numbers, sounds, and images in a form that can

be processed by a computer.

**Database** An organization of data into one or more tables of related data that is asked to

answer questions.

**Data** Refers to the validity of data.

**Integrity** 

**Data Model** Conceptual representation of the structure that are required by databases.

**DB2** Short for Database2, a family of relational database products offered by IBM. It

provides and open database environment that runs on a wide variety of computing platforms. DB2 includes a range of application development and management

tools.

**Effluent** Wastewater treated or untreated that flows out of a treatment plant, sewer, or

industrial outfall. Generally refers to wastes discharged into surface waters.

**EMPACT** Environmental Monitoring for Public Access to Community Tracking, joint EPA,

NOAA and USGS program to promote timely and effective communication of

environmental data and information through improved and updated technology

solutions that support timely environmental monitoring reporting, interpreting, and use of the information for the benefit of the public.

GUI Graphical User Interfaces, a program interface that takes advantage of the computer graphics capabilities to make the program easier to use.

**HTML** Hypertext Markup Language, the text based language used to construct WWW pages.

**JAVA** Programming language used to bring web pages to life.

**Metadata** Data about data, metadata describes how, when, and by whom particular data set of data was collected and how the data is formatted.

**ODBC** Open Database Connection, an interface used by windows applications programs to gain access to databases.

**Raw data** Unprocessed the term refers to data that is passed along to Input/Output device without being interpreted.

**Real-Time** Monitoring and measuring of environmental development with technology and communications systems that promote time-relevant information to the public in an easily understood format people can use in day to day decision making/about their health and the environment.

**Shockwave** An internet technology used within HTML documents to create audio and video effects.

**SQL** Structured Query Language, specialized programming language for sending queries to databases.

URL Uniform Resource locator, the global address of documents and other resources on the World Wide Web. The first part of the address indicates what protocol to use, and the second part specifics the IP address on the domain name where the resource is located.

User The junction between a user and a computer program. An interface is a set of commands on menus through which a user communicates with a programs. The user interface is one of the most important parts of any program because it determines how easily you can make the program do what you want.

Watershed Topographical boundary area that is the perimeter of the catchment area of a

stream.

A watershed approach is a coordinating framework for environmental Watershed **Approach** 

management that focuses public and private sector efforts to address the highest

priority problems within hydrologically defined geographic areas taking into

consideration both ground and surface water flow.